

group comprising base metals, precious metals, salts and oxides thereof and combinations thereof the catalyst composition being protected with an overcoat of carbon which is sufficiently porous to enable said atmospheric containing said pollutants to pass therethrough into operative contact with the catalyst composition and sufficiently protective to prevent catalyst degrading contaminants from contacting the catalyst composition.

<sup>38</sup>68. The method of claim <sup>37</sup>67 further comprising coating the carbon overcoated catalytic surface with at least one hydrophobic protective material which is capable of substantially preventing liquid water and/or water vapor from reaching the catalyst composition.

<sup>39</sup>69. The method of claim <sup>38</sup>68 wherein the hydrophobic protective material is selected from the group comprising fluoropolymers and silicone polymers.

<sup>40</sup>70. The method of claim <sup>37</sup>67 wherein said vehicle is selected from automobiles, trucks, buses, motorcycles and trains and said component is selected from radiators, air-conditioner condensers, charge air coolers, transmission coolers and inserted devices.

<sup>41</sup>71. The method of claim <sup>37</sup>67 wherein said catalyst composition is selected from manganese dioxide, platinum, palladium and mixtures thereof.

<sup>42</sup>72. The method of claim <sup>37</sup>67 wherein the catalyst composition is supported on a material selected from ceria, alumina, titania, silica, zirconia and mixtures thereof.

<sup>43</sup>73. The method of claim <sup>37</sup>67 comprising catalytically treating the atmosphere at temperatures of from about 0° to about 150°C.

<sup>44</sup>74. The method of claim <sup>37</sup>67 wherein the catalyst composition is selected from the group comprising base metals, precious metals as well as salts and oxides thereof and combinations thereof.

<sup>45</sup>75. The method of claim <sup>37</sup>67 wherein the catalyst composition comprises manganese dioxide.

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*46* 76. The method of claim <sup>37</sup>67 wherein the carbon is selected from the group comprising granular activated carbon, carbon black, permanganate on carbon and mixtures thereof.

*47* 77. The method of claim <sup>37</sup>67 wherein the pollutants to be treated are selected from the group comprising ozone, hydrocarbons, carbon monoxide and mixtures thereof.

*48* 78. A device for treating the atmosphere to catalytically convert atmospheric pollutants to less harmful materials comprising an outer surface of a motor vehicle component which has been coated with a catalyst composition the catalyst composition being protected with an overcoat of carbon which is sufficiently porous to enable said atmosphere containing said pollutants to pass therethrough into operative contact with the catalyst composition and sufficiently protective to prevent catalyst degrading pollutants from contacting the catalyst composition.

*49* 79. The device of claim <sup>48</sup>78 further comprising at least one hydrophobic protective material overcoating the carbon, said protective material being capable of substantially preventing liquid water and/or water vapor from reaching the catalyst composition or adsorptive composition.

*50* 80. The device of claim <sup>48</sup>78 comprising at least one layer of carbon and at least one layer of the hydrophobic protective material coated over the catalyst composition or adsorptive composition.

*51* 81. The device of claim <sup>48</sup>78 wherein the catalyst composition is selected from the group comprising base metals, precious metals as well as salts and oxides thereof and combinations thereof.

*52* 82. The device of claim <sup>48</sup>78 wherein the catalyst composition comprises manganese dioxide.

*53* 83. The device of claim <sup>48</sup>78 wherein the carbon overcoat material is selected from the group comprising activated granular carbon, carbon black, permanganate on carbon and mixtures thereof.

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